

Feeding Children in the Summer

Three options to feed children during the summer:

- 1. The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program (SBP)** are administered by the School Food Services Section, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). The school site restricts meal services to just summer school students. Summer school only sites must operate under the NSLP/SBP regulations. The meals must be recorded in the appropriate category: i.e., free, reduced price, and paid. NSLP/SBP rates of reimbursement will apply. Claims for reimbursement must be submitted via the Web to DESE.
- 2. The Seamless Summer Option** is operated under the NSLP/SBP guidelines and is administered by DESE. School/sites must be located in needy areas, that is, where 50 percent or more of the children qualify for free or reduced price school meals, with one exception. School/sites may also be located in non-needy areas, provided that at least 50 percent of the children enrolled in these sites qualify for free or reduced price school meals. Meal services for summer school sites must be open to all children (18 years and under) in the community. The meal services cannot be limited to just those students enrolled in summer school. The availability of meals to the children in the community must be advertised.

All meals must be served free and reimbursed at the free reimbursement rate of the NSLP/SBP. Claims for reimbursement must be submitted via the Web to DESE. The purpose of the option is to feed all children in low-income areas during the summer months and to reduce the paper work and administrative burden that is normally associated with operating all three programs: NSLP/SBP and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

Site eligibility must be re-determined each year. If interested in this option or additional information, please contact Laina Fullum at 573-751-1972.

- 3. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** is administered by The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS). The sites must be located in needy areas, that is, where 50 percent or more of the children qualify for free or reduced price school meals, with one exception. Meals may also be served in non-needy areas, provided that at least 50 percent of the children enrolled qualify for free or reduced price school meals. The meal service must be open to all children (18 years and under) in the community. The availability of the meals to the children in the community must be advertised. The SFSP regulations and reimbursement rates (which are higher than the NSLP/SBP rates) apply. Claims for reimbursement must be submitted to DHSS. For additional information please contact DHSS at 573-751-6250.